

Jan. 30, 2000

Jane Henney, M.D., Commissioner  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Room 1471  
Rockville MD 20857

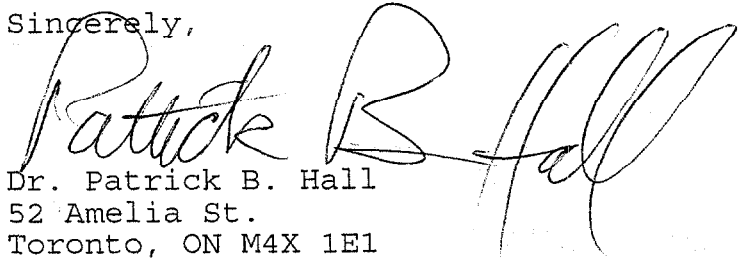
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Dear Dr. Henney,

I am writing to urge you and the FDA to follow the lead of the European Union and move immediately to ban animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine. Overuse of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock has been linked to the emergence of antibiotic-resistant diseases. Many of the drugs used to enhance growth in chicken, pigs, and cattle are the same as, or closely related to, those used to treat people.

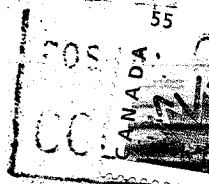
The European Union has banned all growth-promoting uses of antibiotics used in human medicine as a precaution intended to prevent a rise in untreatable infectious diseases. I understand that the FDA is discussing possible restrictions on new approvals of antibiotics, which I strongly support, but I also urge the FDA to ban the use of all antibiotics in livestock, including those antibiotics currently in use.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Patrick B. Hall  
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